

## **LANGLEY FORK PARK PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING SUMMARY**

Date of Meeting: September 27, 2005, Langley High School Cafeteria  
People in Attendance: See Sign in Sheets: 23 attendees  
Board Members: Mr. Kevin J. Fay, Dranesville District  
Dranesville District Supervisor's Staff: Linda Lammersen  
FCPA Staff: Kirk Holley, Sandy Stallman, Andi Dorlester, Rich Sacchi, Meghan  
Fellows, Diane Probus, Bethany Timmes  
National Park Service Staff: Audrey Calhoun, Anne Dayton

### **Introductory remarks by Sandy Stallman, Acting Manager, Park Planning Branch, Fairfax County Park Authority**

- Introduced Honored Guests
- Introduced Key FCPA Staff Members
- Reviewed Meeting Agenda

### **Welcoming Remarks by Kevin Fay, Dranesville District Representative, Park Authority Board**

- Welcomed Attendees
- Stated Purpose of the Meeting:
  - Introduce the Public to the Park Property
  - Present Background and History of the Property
  - Present the Park Planning Process
  - Obtain Public Input on Relevant Issues
- Discussed NPS Permit Renewal as Opportunity to Re-plan Park

### **Welcoming Remarks by Audrey Calhoun, Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Park Service**

- Welcomed Attendees
- Discussed National Park Service Role
  - Langley Fork Park Land is Owned by NPS
  - FCPA Manages and Operates the Park
  - NPS and FCPA Will Be Joint Lead Agencies
  - Master Plan Process and Permit Renewal Will Be Handled Concurrently

### **Presentation**

#### **Park Background and Planning Process (see PowerPoint slide show)**

Andi Dorlester  
Fairfax County Park Authority

## **Meeting Questions Summary :**

- 1. Langley Fork Park has had a lack of water pipes in the past. Could a water pipe be installed in the park?**

Answer: There is a water line on Georgetown Pike. The Master Plan will consider extension of the water line to the park for field irrigation and other uses.

- 2. Will the NPS allow field lights to be installed in the park?**

Answer: The Master Plan will consider the addition of field lights to the park. In the past, the CIA has not allowed lights to be installed at Langley Fork.

- 3. What does the District Park designation mean and why is Langley Fork Park a District Park?**

Answer: A District Park is between 50-150 acres in size and serves a regional, rather than local, population. The facilities existing at Langley Fork Park currently serve the larger McLean area, rather than just the immediate neighborhoods.

- 4. In the planning process how does the Park Authority develop the development options for the park?**

Answer: Several potential development scenarios will be presented to the public at a planning workshop this winter. The process for developing these scenarios includes brainstorming by the staff project team and gathering information from the public at this public meeting and through written comments sent via U.S. mail or the [Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov) email address.

- 5. Is there a limit on how many fields can be constructed in Langley Fork Park?**

Answer: The adopted Park Master Plan and Special Use Permit issued by the National Park Service allows the existing two full-size rectangle fields and two diamond fields. In order for additional fields to be built, the FCPA Board would have to approve a change to the Master Plan and NPS would have to approve the issuance of a new Special Use Permit. As part of the Permit renewal process, FCPA is required to do an environmental assessment of any proposed changes and demonstrate how any negative environmental impacts would be mitigated.

- 6. Does the Park Authority count the people living within the park service area radius as the only park users?**

Answer: FCPA has data on the groups that are currently using the park. In addition, all residents of the McLean Planning District are considered to be potential park users.

- 7. Who are the people that the park is trying to serve?**

Answer: Langley Fork Park is classified as a District Park. The service area for a District Park ranges from 3-6 miles.

**8. What park uses does the NPS prohibit?**

Answer: Audrey Calhoun mentioned that recently NPS had an issue with motorized Segways and had to ban their use. There are only a few uses that are specifically prohibited in National Parks. For example, firearms are not allowed. All proposed park uses are subject to the NEPA Environmental Assessment process.

**9. Are there any plans to improve the trail along Georgetown Pike? How far will the improvement extend?**

Answer: As part of the road improvements required by VDOT for the development of Clemyjontri Park across the street, about 1,000 feet of the paved trail in front of Langley Fork Park will be widened and improved. If NPS designates Georgetown Pike as a segment of the Mount Vernon Trail, funding may be available to improve the remaining length of trail up to the intersection with Colonial Farm Drive.

**10. Could the Marymount University soccer team practice be moved from Lewinsville Park to Langley Fork Park?**

Answer: Field scheduling at Langley Fork Park is handled through the Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services.

**11. Does anyone actually use the exercise stations along the trail in Langley Fork Park? The stations are isolated and are not safe for women to use. Exercise stations out in the open would be better.**

Answer: Periodically spaced exercise stations are not as popular as when the park was developed 25 years ago. A new product, called a Fitness Cluster, is available that groups fitness equipment together in one apparatus. An ADA accessible cluster could be placed in a more open area and several individuals would be able to make use of the equipment at one time. If there is sufficient community interest in this type of facility, FCPA could consider adding it to the Master Plan.

**12. Have the mosquitoes in the park been tested for the West Nile Virus?**

Answer: The mosquitoes in the pond at the southwestern corner of Langley Fork Park were recently tested and no West Nile Virus was found. The presence of West Nile Virus in mosquitoes was confirmed at Clemyjontri Park across the street. Clemyjontri was treated for mosquitoes in August 2005.

**13. What is the purpose of the pond in the southwest corner of the park? Do you have any plans to use the pond?**

Answer: The wet area in the southwestern corner of Langley Fork Park is a natural pond that also serves to collect stormwater runoff from the ball fields. It is not an engineered stormwater management facility. The Master Plan may consider improvements to the pond to increase its capacity to store water.

**14. Does the CIA have a written agreement to use the helicopter pad located in a field in Langley Fork Park?**

Answer: Langley Fork Park is federally owned land; therefore the CIA is allowed to use the fields for helicopter landing and takeoff.

**15. Is there any reason a monopole could not be installed in Langley Fork Park?**

Answer: A telecommunications company that wishes to place a monopole at Langley Fork Park would have to make a request directly to NPS and would be subject to the NEPA Environmental Assessment process.

**Comments:**

- ❖ Al Kuhn spoke on behalf of the Evermay Home Owners Association. He stated that Evermay HOA:
  - Supports the addition of more ballfields at Langley Fork Park
  - Supports the use of the parking lot for the transfer of Potomac School students
  - Would like the NPS to consider installing a monopole in the park
- ❖ A representative from the McLean Youth Lacrosse league asked FCPA to consider a park design that can accommodate both adult and youth team use with minimal conflicts between the groups. He related several situations in which adult teams did not get off the fields when a lacrosse team was scheduled to play. He suggested that there be more time scheduled between the games and that more fields be built. *Kevin Fay responded that walk-on use is an issue countywide and the Park Authority Board is working now to develop policies and procedures for alleviating conflicts between scheduled and unscheduled users.*
- ❖ A citizen made a request for the Park Authority to consider providing some facilities for track teams such as a trail for cross country teams to run on and field space for track and field activities.
- ❖ Another suggestion was that the Park Authority should provide adequate restroom facilities for park visitors.
- ❖ Representatives from the Fairfax County Adult Softball league commented that there is only one good softball field in the area. There is a need for more softball fields in the area that can be used by adult co-ed teams. Presently teams of individuals who work nearby have to travel to other areas of the County to play games.